



## Barford St. Peter's C of E Primary School

### Home-School Agreement on Parental Use of Social Media and Internet Sites<sup>i</sup>

Social Media is now widely used for many purposes in everyday life. This type of media is beneficial in allowing people to communicate with each other in ways that were not previously possible, and can be a real force for good in the community.

Unfortunately, these platforms can also be used inappropriately by some as a means of expressing negative or offensive views about schools, their children and their staff. This can break down the collaboration and trust between parents and the school that is essential to our children's education.

At Barford St. Peter's, we recognise how fortunate we are in having excellent collaboration with supportive parents and children who are renowned for their good behaviour. We want to reinforce this by providing shared expectations for parents<sup>ii</sup>, children and school staff alike as to appropriate use of social media in the school context. This brief Home-School Agreement is aimed at achieving this.

These shared expectations are based on a Social Media policy adopted by school staff and governors. It is available on the School website. This policy sets out this School's approach to parental and children's use of such sites and the procedures we will follow and action we may take should parents or children use such facilities inappropriately. We ask all parents to make sure they have read this policy.

1	<p><b>SCHOOL WILL:</b></p> <p>Provide a clear policy statement, with guidelines, about inappropriate parental use of social media and internet sites. This will be available on the School website.</p>	<p><b>PARENT WILL:</b></p> <p>(a) Familiarise themselves with School policy and guidelines on appropriate parental use of social media and internet sites and be responsible for ensuring that their children also understand and adhere to these, explaining to them what it is acceptable to post online, and what is not acceptable.</p> <p>(b) Avoid inappropriate use of social media and/or other internet sites, for example by expressing negative or offensive views about the School, its staff, its children, school governors or anyone else associated with the School, or by posting photographic images of them.</p>
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2	<p><b>SCHOOL WILL:</b></p> <p>Aim to avoid any need for parents to resort to use of social media or other internet sites for raising concerns about the School, its staff, its children, school governors and anyone else associated with the school, by:</p> <p>(a) Being open to concerns, frustrations and complaints of parents, expressed through private and confidential discussion with the School, or using the School's formal complaints process.</p> <p>(b) Providing clear and transparent procedures on the School website for parents and the School to use in resolving formal complaints.</p>	<p><b>PARENT WILL:</b></p> <p>Aim to resolve any concerns, frustrations or complaints about the School informally in the first instance by raising them directly and privately with the appropriate member(s) of School staff.</p> <p>If this fails to resolve the issue, follow the formal complaints procedure published by the School to pursue their concerns.</p>
3	<p>Clearly set out within the social media policy and guidelines the action the School will consider taking if parents make inappropriate use of social media.</p> <p>The initial step will be to discuss the matter with the parent to try to resolve the matter, and to ask that the relevant information be removed from the website.</p> <p>If this fails, the school will take appropriate legal action as detailed in the policy on Parental Use of Social Media and Internet Sites.</p>	<p>Co-operate with the School by agreeing to:</p> <p>(a) Be willing to discuss with the school any information judged by the school to be inappropriate that is published on social media or other internet sites for which they or their child are responsible; and</p> <p>(b) Remove this information from the relevant platform if requested.</p>
	<p><b>Headteacher's Signature:</b></p>	<p><b>Parent's Signature:</b></p>

Approved (as amended at meeting) by BSP Resources Committee  
Reviewed and approved by BSP Resources Committee (by Chair's Action)  
Next review:

<sup>i</sup> This Home-School Agreement should be read in conjunction with Barford St. Peter's C of E primary School Policy on Parental Use of Social Media and Internet Sites, available on the school website at [barfordschool.org/Statutory Information/Procedures and Policies](http://barfordschool.org/Statutory%20Information/Procedures%20and%20Policies)

<sup>ii</sup> Throughout this document any references to 'parents' includes carers, relatives or any individual having responsibility for a child at the school.